

Hello...

In 2015 God called us from Birmingham to Whitstable, Kent to lead a vibrant church community. We believe Jesus is for everyone and we are passionate about helping people encounter His life-changing power. Our vision is to see our coastlands transformed through His goodness.

This September, we are launching our first 360 Discipleship Year and we would love you to come and join us. Why is it called 360? We believe that through our Riverside campus, we are offering a unique opportunity to experience a church that is blending worship, ministry and community connection in whole new way.

As a 360 student you'll become part of the team, helping us respond to God's leading as we pioneer new ways to serve the people around us. You will see how a growing church works, mature in your faith and experience, whilst making a whole load of new friends.

We believe that God is calling people with passion and drive to come and help us with our mission to bring transformation to our coastland communities. If you want to be in a challenging and exciting environment and join an authentic welcoming family, then we'd love to meet you.

Simon & Keely Bateson - Lead Pastors

Is 360 for me?

360 is an invitation to spend a year intentionally investing in your relationship with God. You'll be in an inspiring growth environment where you'll discover more of who God is and the plan He has for your life.

To apply for 360 you need to be aged between 18-25 and have the spiritual, emotional and physical capacity to get the most out of the time with us. The year will be jam packed with things to do and learn but you'll also have lots of fun along the way.

What will I do?

360 will normally involve Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Sundays, with some additional evenings, depending on what is happening in the life of the church. There may be different events that fall outside of this, but generally you will have Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays free.

Mondays and Tuesdays will be spent getting “hands on” with all sorts of ministries and compassion and community projects. During the application process we’ll identify the specific giftings you have and particular areas you might want to specialise in. We’ll then try to create opportunities for you to serve and grow in these areas.

Wednesdays will be a day to come together to pray, worship, learn and build relationships. This will be a time to grow together and learn together. There will also be some time for personal reflection and study.

Outside of this normal routine, you’ll be expected to prioritise being part of a church small group. You’ll also be encouraged to keep a journal through the year so you can reflect on all that God is saying and doing. Every 360 student will also be assigned a mentor who will regularly meet with you to encourage and champion your personal growth.

Our goal for 360 is that you will learn to pursue Jesus more fully in every area of your life. Through the rhythm of community, serving and learning within our supportive church family, you’ll grow in loving people and loving Jesus.

When does it start?

360 will start on Saturday 19 September with a get-together and an evening meal. It will run for a little over 10 months, finishing at the end of July 2021. Although we expect you to be committed to the course for the time you are here and to make it your priority, we try to be as flexible as possible, allowing people to go home for special occasions and other visits. There is space in the calendar to take a two-week holiday over Christmas and New Year and another one-week holiday around Easter if you’d like to.

Does it cost anything?

We want to make 360 as accessible as possible so we are really pleased that some generous families within the church have offered to host 360 students for the year.

Because of the hospitality of these families, we are able to keep the cost of the 360 to just £2750*. This amount includes your rent and bills, Wildfires and Big Church Day Out tickets and all your course materials and training resources.

All you'll need to cover will be any personal living expenses and we encourage you to find part-time work during 360 to help with these costs.

**This cost is payable at the start of the course.*

How do I apply for 360?

We want to make sure that the 360 discipleship year is the right thing for you, and so we have an application process and then an informal interview.

Application forms can be accessed on our website at riversideuk.org/360

The deadline for completing your application is the 26 June 2020.